On May 31st we had a conference call with Miss Liz from Idaho. During the lesson I learned about oil spills and what happen to the oil, what cause the oil what nature was involved.

The past two oil spills that we had were caused by either a oil tanker running into an ice berg or a pipe breaking. When oil is spilled into the water the oil rise’s to the surface because oil is less dense then water but more dense then air

It takes lots of effort to clean up an oil spill. The first thing we tried was to use a rope to act like a block so the oil wouldn’t move. But the problem with that was no one could not get the rope to float so it wouldn’t work. Then, we tried the skimmer technique, to skim the water we used a pipette to get the oil out of the water but as the oil came out so did the water following it. So that didn’t end up working. So then we put soap in the oil to act like dispersions and the soap broke down the oil so it can get eaten by bacteria. That ended up working.

An oil refinery is a machine that heats up the oil to make useable oil. They can break down the oil in different parts for example: at 20°c makes gasoline, 150°c makes petrol, 200°c makes kerosene, 300°c makes diesel oil, 370°c makes fuel oil and 400° makes lubricating oil, paraffin wax and asphalt.

Many animals were affected by these oil spills. The first type of animal is sea turtles; they can die from swimming in the oil or eating smaller animals that are covered in oil. Sea otters and other sea animals were affected because they also eat animals that have oil on them. A last animal that is affected is birds. Even though birds are in the sky they are still affected by scooping down into the water to get fish to eat they can get oil in the throat or stomachs and get really sick or die.

The oil is found under the earth’s crust, due to the immense heat and pressure. Some of the countries are a step ahead in petroleum and natural gas deposit. One type of wells is the fossil fuel well….The fossil fuels well can produce oil and natural gases.

So during this day I learned a lot of things I had no clue about. This lab helped out a lot of people so the bad things that happen during a oil spill. Oil spills need to be stop or we neither can nor will lose everything. (Nature wise)